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EIGHT PAGES

B. C. MEDIATION SCHOOL YARD IS FILLING UP

Felix Diaz Arrives in the Vicinity to Watch Proceedings of the Mexican Mediators.

ISH TO SAVE HUERTA

Strangling of Mexican Trouble is Slow Task and Headway is Very Far Distant.

Official representation through Jose Vasconcelos. The Diaz faction is on the ground first and whether this may force General Carranza to a direct declaration of his intentions, is expected to soon develop.

It was nearly midnight when the American delegates adjourned another extended consultation with the mediators. The real work of mediation is ahead. After extended consultation with Washington, Justice Lamar and Frederick Lehmann have replied to proposals of the Mexicans by the submission of suggestions of their own. On just what point the two factions must be first brought together is not officially known.

Trying to Save Huerta.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Reports from Niagara Falls that the Mexican commissioners to the mediation conferences were endeavoring to save Huerta, caused no apprehension here today. Officials have all along felt that this would be done. They believe that with characteristic Latin-American procrastination, the Huertista representatives will not abandon this method of procedure until given the direct choice of ending the negotiations or making a decision. Then they will very probably accept Huerta's elimination and proceed to the next stage of the negotiations.

This is the interpretation placed by administration officials upon the advice received from Justice Lamar by Secretary Bryan. All others here, who have nothing official to go on, are dubiously inclined to fear it may be found out after all, that the Mexican commissioners like the Americans, possess no absolute power and are at all times responsible to the dictator.

Reports of impending trouble in Mexico City are becoming more and more circumstantial. The South American legations here are in possession of information confirmatory of United Press dispatches from the Mexican capital, that Huerta faces revolt and uprising. Their information from their own representatives say all that is needed is a leader under whom all of the anti-Huerta factions can combine. Given such a one, it is stated, the overthrow of the dictator would be a matter of hours only. It is believed the present crisis will develop this leader and that long before the Niagara Falls mediators are forced to reach a positive decision Huerta will have been eliminated by his own people.

Rumors that the constitutionalists have already captured San Luis Potosi were not confirmed here. It is stated that Villa is now advancing on Zacatecas and that until that city is

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DECISIONS BY SUPREME COURT

Tap Line Cases Were Decided against the Interstate Commerce Commerce.

TITANIC DAMAGE SUIT

Adjournment to June 8 Without Decision on the Important Inter Mountain Rate Case.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, May 25.—The "tap" line cases, involving millions of dollars annually in alleged rebates by trunk railroads to lumber and logging roads were decided against the government and the interstate commerce commission today by the supreme court. It sustained the old commerce court's decree enjoining the commission's order of 1912, prohibiting joint rate rebate payments to the tap lines. Its effect is seriously to cripple the commission's control over joint through rate divisions given the subsidiary lines.

Authority of the interstate commerce commission to prevent "rebate" allowances, through division of joint through rates to lumbering and other industrial "tap" lines was involved in the cases decided today. Nearly a hundred such lines were parties to the litigation. This decision is of vast importance to lumbering interests in the southwest, particularly Arkansas, Missouri, Louisiana and Texas.

The commission held that divisions of rates resulted in such serious depletion of the railroads' revenue and created grave discrimination. It was estimated \$100,000,000 was paid annually by trunk lines in tap line concessions.

Titanic Decision.

WASHINGTON, May 25.—That American laws limiting financial liability to nominal damages for loss of life and property in the Titanic disaster may be invoked by the Oceanic Steam Navigation Company, owners of the Titanic, was decreed today by the supreme court.

The corporation won its suit to limit liability in the United States courts.

The court decided the first two questions submitted by the lower court in the affirmative and to the third question held that the United States laws apply in suits brought in this country.

American claims aggregating over \$1,000,000 as a result of the sinking of the Titanic in mid-ocean April 15, 1912, were involved in the suit decided today by the high courts. As owner of the Titanic, the Oceanic Steam Navigation Co., a British corporation sought to limit its monetary liability to American survivors and relatives of survivors for lives and property lost when the great ship crashed into a "growler," or submerged iceberg, carrying down nearly 2,200 persons and entailing a financial loss variously estimated from \$7,000,000 to \$15,000,000. The test suits decided today were brought by Harry Anderson, an American, and William J. Mellor, a British subject. They sought to invoke, in the United States courts, the British marine laws which hold a company liable for the full losses sustained. The company sought to limit its liability to the pro rata share of the actual value of property recovered from the wreck. This amounted to less than \$92,000 including about \$87,000 in passage fares paid and the value of fourteen lifeboats recovered—practically all saved from the great ocean disaster. The federal district court of New York held against the steamship company. On appeal the federal court of appeals confessed it was unable to settle the problem and "passed it along" to the supreme court upon questions for the high court to answer. The questions certified were:

(a) Whether in case of disaster upon the high seas, where (1) only a single vessel of British nationality is concerned and there are claimants of many different nationalities; and (2) where there is nothing before the court to show what, if any, is the law of the foreign country to which the vessel belongs, touching the owner's liability for such disaster, can such owner maintain proceedings under the United States statutes and admiralty rules?

(b) Whether if the law of the foreign country to which the vessel belongs makes provisions for the limitation of the vessel owner's liability, upon terms different from those in

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LIVELY SUNDAY IN NEW YORK

Gangsters Hold Carnival of Shooting and Spatter the Streets With Blood.

POLICE ARE BAFFLED

Five Men Slain, Three Fatally Wounded and Many Others Limp Away With Bullet Wounds.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] NEW YORK, May 25.—Gang killers, whose battles on both the east and west sides of Manhattan, resulted in the murder of five men, the fatal wounding of three and the injury of many more, were sought by the police today after the outbreak of disorder had culminated in a bloody street fight in Hell's Kitchen.

Twenty-five suspects were gathered in by the police. They spent last night vainly seeking for those whose blood spattered the pavement after the Hell's Kitchen affray. Every man hit was spirited away and today all had evaded the searching detectives.

Twenty men firing promiscuously, filled the streets at Ninth avenue and Sixth street when the battle broke out. They were members of Hell's Kitchen and the Strykers Farm bands. Hundreds of dwellers in tenements there fled in terror when the battle began and several women and children narrowly escaped the flying lead. The rattle of pistols was heard in the West Forty-seventh street police station, just a block away and reserves were hustled around the corner. Before they arrived, however, the feud was over, the gunmen had scattered and only a few pools of blood on the paving stones showed that some of the bullets went home.

The second outbreak came at a dance in Abingee Square, a mile lower down on the west side. Hall, "the Hudson duster," a notorious band, were entertaining when the Gophers, a rival crowd sent a spy into the hall to see what was going on. He was Frank Hillcock, recognized as a Gopher, Hillcock fled, receiving a bullet behind the ear. Later he was taken to the New York hospital. There, although told he was dying, Hillcock refused to say a word of who shot him down, remaining true to the ethics of the New York gun fighter.

When police backed two patrol wagons up to the doors of the dance hall, no one could be found who knew anything of a man being shot. An empty pistol, freshly discharged, was found in the hall and twenty-five of the gangsters and their women were taken to the police station. Today they are being sweated for a clue to the crime.

Two stabbings on the lower west side, three men shot to death and one suicide on the east side filled out the toll of the gang fray for the Sunday holiday.

HE RETURNED AS FROM THE GRAVE

Rev. Patmont Says He Was Kidnaped Two Months Ago and Held Prisoner.

DETECTIVES GET BUSY

For Fifty Days He Was Carried About the Country in a Big Red Auto.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 25.—Interest in the mystery of the kidnaping of Rev. Louis R. Patmont, prohibition worker from Westville, Ill., shifted today from Columb'ia, Ill., where he was found bound and gagged in a farm house, to Danville, Ill., where he will tell the story of his fifty day imprisonment and the names of the men he alleges kidnaped him March 31.

Before leaving here Patmont told Rev. John Brandt that members of the "wet" faction at Westville were implicated.

Police in St. Louis and East St. Louis today threw out a dragnet for two Italians answering the description Patmont gave of his captors, who were said by an interurban conductor to have come to East St. Louis Saturday night from Columbia.

Happy Family Reunion.

DANVILLE, Ill., May 25.—Returned as if from the grave, the Rev. Louis R. Patmont, of Milwaukee, Wis., "dry" lecturer, who disappeared during a local option campaign at Westville near here, two months ago and who reappeared at Columbia, Ill., Saturday afternoon with a marvelous tale of a kidnaping in a big red automobile and wild drives about the country for fifty days, was the center of a family reunion today in which his aged parents joined with untold felicity.

Patmont arrived here today from St. Louis and was taken to the home of Rev. J. F. Bickel, pastor of the First Christian church of Danville. Longing for a sight of his kin he was amazed and delighted when he found that friends had already arranged for their visit here to greet him. The elder Mr. and Mrs. Patmont arrived from Chicago at 6 o'clock, a little ahead of the returned minister. The minister's wife, Mrs. Elsie Patmont, will arrive from Newark, N. J., tonight.

The grand jury before whom Patmont was eager to relate his thrilling story, will not convene before mid afternoon, train schedules delaying the arrival of some of the members.

A horde of detectives, some employed by the Danville ministerial association, three sent by the Christian church of Detroit and half a dozen privately employed, are searching for the big red car in which Patmont says he was kidnaped and driven from town to town as a prisoner.

Patmont asserts he does not know whose automobile was used in the kidnaping, but a Burns detective declares he has this fact.

Telling his story to his parents today before he was to visit the grand jury room, Patmont declared when kidnaped he was carried two miles on a hand car, placed in an automobile and taken to an old house where he was kept until a week ago, when he was removed to Columbia, Ill. He asserted his belief he was kept near Westville all the time until the last week. A foreman, he said, attended meagerly to his wants.

Just before the grand jury met, Patmont received a message from his wife, saying she was enroute here with their children.

Feeling His Pulse.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] WASHINGTON, May 25.—Whether Wm. Rockefeller is physically able to appear before the interstate commerce commission in the New Haven inquiry will be definitely decided today when a special examiner of the Interstate commerce commission meets Rockefeller in New York to ascertain his physical condition. If the examiner reports Rockefeller able to testify, the commission will at once issue a subpoena for him. Chas. W. Morse has asked to testify as to his connection with the New Haven but the commission is undecided about giving him the chance.

Reported Released.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, May 25.—The Women's Social and Political Union this afternoon announced the release of Mrs. Pankhurst from Holloway jail. Her report was denied by the police.

IRISH HOME RULE BILL UP AGAIN IN PARLIAMENT

Sets England Into Spasm of Political Frenzy Such as Seldom is Witnessed.

UPRISINGS ARE EXPECTED

Police Reinforcements Are Sent Into Ulster to Put Down Any Trouble Arising.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, May 25.—With Irish home rule to come up again in parliament today and the bill to reach a third reading by tonight or tomorrow, political Great Britain again was in throes of frenzy such as has seldom marked a session at Westminster. As members of the house of commons prepared to renew the struggle that adjourned the session in pandemonium on Thursday last, Ulster was all but aflame. Unless parliament should be dissolved by the decision today, the home rule bill of Premier Asquith, already twice enacted, will be called up for a third reading and debate at once. It was expected, however that debates on the various motions probably will delay action until tomorrow, the day the prime minister announced in his speech last week.

When the commons met today, Speaker Lowther had ready a speech of legislation, intended to assuage the bitter feeling engendered in his encounter last week with Arthur Bonar Law, leader of the opposition. It was agreed that the procedure which may or may not be adhered to, provides that Premier Asquith will then outline to the members the amended home rule bill which is ready for introduction in the house of lords by Viscount Morley. The third reading of the commons bill then will be moved. Unionist agitators hope by disorder and confusion, to force a dissolution of parliament before the bill can come up.

Interest in the home rule situation was intensified when it became known that the earl of Aberdeen, lord lieutenant of Ireland, had held a long conference with Premier Asquith and the marquis of Londonderry.

The police of County Tyrone today were ordered from Dublin to carry their revolvers constantly.

Looking for Trouble.

BELFAST, May 25.—In anticipa-

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tion of possible outbreaks among Orangemen today precipitated by the resumption of the home rule controversy in the Westminster parliament, heavy police reinforcements were sent from the south into all of the Ulster districts. The Dorsetshire regiment returned to Hollywood today from their training camp.

Reports of "gun running" in the north continued today and it is said that King George's embargo against the importation of arms into Ireland is being evaded in a wholesale manner.

Three Hundred Constables.

DUBLIN, May 25.—Three hundred constables, equipped with rifles and revolvers today were sent from here to Belfast and other points in Ulster where trouble was believed likely because of home rule agitation.

Bill Passes the House.

LONDON, May 25.—The Irish home rule bill this afternoon was passed by the house of commons.

It was the third enactment of home rule by the commons and by the veto act the measure will become a law even though it be rejected by the house of lords.

The vote was 351 for and 254 against home rule. The division was strictly a political one and the vote was practically the same as on the last enactment of the measure with the exception of the few votes gained by the unionists in the recent elections.

When the house of commons convened this afternoon, Speaker J. W. Lowther, in an explanatory speech, admitted that the question he asked of Arthur Bonar Law, leader of the opposition on Friday (last) was improper.

Bonar Law was on his feet instantly. He announced that he accepted the speaker's apology and demanded the immediate third reading and division on the bill.

During the near riot that caused the summary adjournment of the commons last Friday, when unionists were shouting, Lowther asked Bonar Law if he approved of the anti-home rule demonstration. Bonar Law refused to answer, saying the question was not a proper one.

The quick vote on home rule at the demand of the unionists came as a surprise to the public who early in the day flocked to Westminster and crowded the galleries in anticipation of a vigorous, old time debate. It was believed that Bonar Law, John Redmond, Sir Edward Carson and other

MEXICAN FEDERALS LOOTED SALTILLO BEFORE RETREATING AND LEFT CITY A WRECK

Villa's Army and Other Rebel Forces Keep Hammering Away at Remnant of Defenders.

WHO ORDERED RETREAT?

Delayed Reports Tell of Constitutional Victories Wherever There Have Been Battles.

forcing it to evacuate before reinforcements could be sent from Mexico City or Saltillo. At the time of filing this dispatch Torres evidently did not know Saltillo had been evacuated.

Torres also reported a large force of constitutionalists midway between San Luis Potosi and Saltillo which had defeated and scattered a federal force at Canegua. It is believed here this federal force was the advance guard of the federal army from Saltillo.

Saltillo is a Wreck.

SALTILLO, Coahuila, Mexico, May 23. (via Torreon, May 25.—Delayed by censor)—It is stated by federal captured during the skirmishing which preceded the federal evacuation of Saltillo this week that General Pascual Orozco was in command of the federal irregular forces in this city and that he urged General Joaquin Maas, commander in chief of the federal forces in the Saltillo district, to make a stand here. Maas refused and many now believe the evacuation was the result of orders from Mexico City. Whether they came from General Huerta or Minister of War Blanquet is not known.

The federalists had an abundance of ammunition and food enough to last thirty days if carefully hoarded. The constitutionalists for weeks had had control of the water supply but

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THE WEATHER

For Keokuk and vicinity: Unsettled but generally fair weather tonight and Tuesday. Continued warm.

For Illinois, Iowa and Missouri: Unsettled but generally fair weather tonight and Tuesday. Continued warm.

Weather Conditions.

With the pressure high in the Atlantic states, the weather is fair and warm from the Mississippi river eastward to the coast, and fair weather prevails throughout the southern states.

Conditions indicate unsettled, but generally fair weather for this section tonight and Tuesday, continuing warm.

Daily River Bulletin.

Stage Height Change Wea. h. r.

St. Paul	14		
La Crosse	12	5.4	0.0
Dubuque	13	7.8	-0.2
Davenport	15	6.2	-0.4
Keokuk	14	6.4	-0.4
St. Louis	30	11.4	-1.0

River Forecast.

The river will continue to fall slowly from Davenport to Keokuk until there are heavy rains.

Local Observations.

May 24	Bar	Ther.	Wind	Weather
24 7 p. m.	29.89	35	S	Clear
25 7 a. m.	29.94	74	S	Clear

River above low water of 1864, 6 feet, 4 tenths.

Mean temperature, May 24, 79.

Highest temperature, 89.

Lowest temperature, 69.

Lowest temperature last night, 72.

FRED Z. GOSEWISCH, Observer.

THE STAGE HAS BEEN SET FOR EXPECTED PANDEMONIUM IN THE CAPITAL OF MEXICO

Shop Windows Boarded up and Keys in the Locks, Ready to be Clicked Instantly.

BLANQUET DEFIES HUERTA

Dictator May Not Last Through the Week and All Signs Point to Trouble.

[By Wm. G. Shepherd, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

VERA CRUZ, Mexico, May 25.—With General Blanquet, minister of war, openly defying General Huerta, and the dictator meekly submitting, while business houses in the capital are barricaded, foreigners in Mexico City sent word here they believed Huerta might not last through the week. The break between Huerta and his war minister came with the discovery of an alleged plot against the provisional president Saturday. Almost beside himself with rage, when he discovered that his subordinates were in league against him, Huerta hurried to the Belem penitentiary

where 100 political prisoners were confined, and ordered their execution. He told the jailer to lead the 100 suspected of connection with the plot, outside and to shoot them against the wall. The war minister went post-haste to the penitentiary in an automobile. He called Huerta outside and then ordered the prisoners returned to their cells.

"You must stop this killing of your supposed enemies if you want me to stand by you in this crisis," Blanquet told the dictator and to the great astonishment of the prison officials Huerta meekly allowed Blanquet to countermand his order for the prisoners' execution, and fled to one of his favorite cafes.

Blanquet is said by refugees to be the man of the hour in Mexico City and should a crisis come, it is believed that he will take charge and attempt to send Huerta out of the country.

Fifteen French cannon have been placed by Huerta in Chepultepec castle, where it is said he will make his last stand if he is unable to escape.

The situation in the capital is electrical with tension. Almost all of the shop windows have been boarded up for the last three days, in anticipation of street fighting. The store doors are ready to be locked and barricaded on a moment's notice and customers do their shopping by lamp-light.

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